

RYAN WALTERS STATE SUPERINTENDENT of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

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Walters, Oklahoma Leading Nation in Opposing Biden Title IX Rule First State Education Agency to Sue to Protect Women

Oklahoma City, Okla – After voicing swift and decisive opposition to the Biden administration's radical and unilateral changes to Title IX, State Superintendent Ryan Walters announced a lawsuit by the Oklahoma State Department of Education challenging the rule change today. This is the first and only independent legal action taken by any state education agency challenging the sweeping revisions to Title IX.

"Title IX was designed to ensure women had the guarantee of sex equality in education and an environment free from discrimination, but this rewriting – rooted in radical gender theory that ignores biological reality – has set back the cause of civil rights for women by generations. I will do everything possible to protect the essential and fundamental right of women and girls to have safe spaces of their own to compete, change clothes, and use the bathroom," said Walters.

"Women and girls deserve better than to have their futures put in jeopardy by Joe Biden and the out-of-touch leftist bureaucrats that permeate Washington, DC. I am proud that we are filing this critically important lawsuit to protect the prerogative of states to find policies that meet the needs of their citizens."

Title IX was enacted to provide equality and protection to female students. The US Department of Education's (ED) Final Rule is clearly contrary to the purposes Title IX was enacted for and erodes, or destroys, those rights. The Final Rule makes it impossible for schools to enforce the Rule while protecting the constitutional rights, like privacy, of other students.

The lawsuit seeks relief to stop enforcement of Title IX sexual discrimination as interpreted by ED in the Final Rule. It also seeks declaratory relief, which asks the Court to find and order that ED has acted unconstitutionally and arbitrarily and capriciously in enacting the Final Rule.

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